CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:

     receiving an identification from an electronic device;

     finding a product code associated with the identification; and

     sending the product code to the electronic device;

     wherein the product code enables use of a product on the electronic device, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

     copying the product code to a database when the product is purchased.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the finding the product code further comprises finding the product code in the database.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

     copying the product code to a database when the product and the electronic device are purchased.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the identification identifies the electronic device.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the identification identifies a customer.

7. A signal-bearing medium bearing instructions that when executed comprise:

     installing a product on an electronic device;

     detecting a product code associated with the product; and

     saving the product code in the electronic device;

wherein the product code enables use of the product, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.

8. The signal-bearing medium of claim 7, further comprising

      sending the product code and an identification to a server.

9. The signal-bearing medium of claim 8, wherein the identification identifies the electronic device.

10. The signal-bearing medium of claim 8, wherein the identification identifies a customer.

11. The signal-bearing medium of claim 8, further comprising:

      retrieving the product code from the server when the product is reinstalled on the electronic device.

12. The signal-bearing medium of claim 11, further comprising:

      inserting the product code into an installation routine for the product.

13. A point-of-sale system comprising:

      a controller to send an identification of a product to a server, receive a product code from the server in response to the identification of the product, and send the product and the product code to an electronic device.

14. The point-of-sale system of claim 13, wherein the electronic device is purchased using the point-of-sale system.

15. The point-of-sale system of claim 13, wherein the product code enables use of the product on the electronic device.

16. A manufacturing system comprising:

a controller that loads a product and a product code into an electronic device, wherein the product code enables use of the product, and sends the product code and an identification of the electronic device to a server.

17. The manufacturing system of claim 16, wherein the controller further sends an identification of a customer who ordered the electronic device to the server.

18. The manufacturing system of claim 16, wherein the controller obtains the product code from a second server associated with a provider of the product.

19. An electronic device comprising:

a processor; and

a storage device, wherein the storage device comprises instructions, which when executed on the processor comprise:

installing a product on an electronic device,

detecting a product code associated with the product; and

saving the product code in the electronic device;

wherein the product code enables use of the product, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.

20. The electronic device of claim 19, wherein the instructions further comprise:

sending the product code and an identification to a server.

21. The electronic device of claim 20, wherein the identification identifies the electronic device.

22. The electronic device of claim 20, wherein the identification identifies a customer.

23. An apparatus comprising:

means for receiving an identification from an electronic device;

means for finding a product code associated with the identification; and

means for sending the product code to the electronic device;

wherein the product code enables use of a product on the electronic device, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.

24. A method comprising:

extracting a part number for software from an order for an electronic device;

fetching a product code based on the part number;

loading the software to the electronic device; and

loading the product code to the electronic device.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the loading the product code further comprises:

loading the product code to a host protected area of a storage device associated with the electronic device when the host protected area exists.

26. The method of claim 25, where the loading the product code further comprises:

loading the product code to a user area of a storage device when the host protected area does not exist.

27. The method of claim 24, further comprising:

determining whether the part number has a product code prior to the fetching.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein the extracting the part number further comprises:

filtering out hardware part numbers from the order.

29. A signal-bearing medium bearing instructions that when executed comprise:

extracting a part number for software from an order for an electronic device;

fetching a product code based on the part number;

loading the software to the electronic device; and

loading the product code to the electronic device.

30. The signal-bearing medium of claim 29, wherein the loading the product code further comprises:

loading the product code to a host protected area of a storage device associated with the electronic device when the host protected area exists.

31. The signal-bearing medium of claim 30, where the loading the product code further comprises:

loading the product code to a user area of a storage device when the host protected area does not exist.

32. The signal-bearing medium of claim 29, further comprising:

determining whether the part number has a product code prior to the fetching.

33. The signal-bearing medium of claim 29, wherein the extracting the part number further comprises:

filtering out hardware part numbers from the order.